

REMARKS

Claims 1 - 27, 29 and 31 - 34 are pending in this application. New claims 35 - 41 have been added above. Claim 35, an independent claim, is similar to originally submitted claim 3.

Applicant's invention, as disclosed and particularly pointed out in the pending claims, relates to a gaming machine in which information relevant to the player bonus playing modes is made available to the player. Not only available but also in a format and location that directs the player to focus on the bonus game in which he or she is engaged.

Claim 1, as amended, points out Applicant's invention in which the special game has two modes, a first and a second mode, with the second mode entered from the first. Claim 1 further points out that the special games are present as progressive stories with the progressive story presentation in the second mode distinguishable from those of the first mode. Clearly, the references of the record neither teach or suggest the features pointed out in amended claim 1.

Claim 42 further points out that plurality of games of the second mode can be stored from the first and each of the second mode games begins a different story.

Amended claim 14 points out that special bonus game includes a plurality of individual games and the special game information shows individual outcomes. None of the references of record teach or suggest a display of outcomes of each special game. In

addition, claim 14 points out that the game itself is a progressive story with which the layer can interact. Again, this feature is absent in the references of record. In the Okada reference, the progressive story is not a game, but an adjunct to the special game.

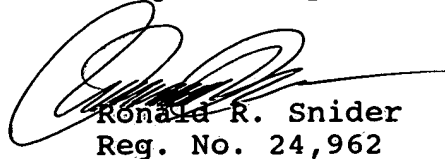
Claim 35 is directed to a game with two bonus modes, the second entered from the first. As particularly pointed out in claim 35, the gaming machine includes an image display section that simultaneously shows individual outcomes of past plays in both special game modes. Applicant respectfully submits that the art of record, either alone or in combination, does not disclose or suggest such a display.

Specifically, in rejecting application's claims under 35 U.S.C. 103, the Examiner has relied upon a combination of four references, namely Slomiany, Shimizu, Claypool, and Okada. None of these references, or the other references of record, address the issue of displaying special game information and display the individual outcomes of past plays in two special game modes, one entered from the other. Thus it is clear without extended discussion, the references of record neither anticipate or render obvious applicants claimed invention.

Applicant's dependent claims are allowable for the reasons advanced in connection with claims from which they depend. In addition, these dependent claims point out additional novel, non-obvious features of Applicant's invention.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance, and early action in accordance thereof is requested. In the event there is any reason why the application cannot be allowed in this current condition, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact the undersigned at the number listed below to resolve any problems by Interview or Examiner's Amendment.

Respectfully submitted,



Ronald R. Snider
Reg. No. 24,962

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Snider & Associates
Ronald R. Snider
P.O. Box 27613
Washington, D.C. 20038-7613
(202) 347-2600

RRS/bam